

NEWS RELEASE

NORTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY PATROL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 17, 2006 CONTACT: Lieutenant Kelly Rodgers, NDHP 328-2455

HIGHWAY PATROL WILL PARTICIPATE IN CRASH REDUCTION AND SAFETY RESTRAINT ENFORCEMENT EFFORT

The North Dakota Highway Patrol will participate in the national C.A.R.E. (Combined Accident Reduction Effort) program during the Thanksgiving holiday period, November 22-26, 2006, and will also utilize overtime hours to supplement safety restraint enforcement efforts.

Troopers will be concentrating enforcement efforts during peak travel times throughout the holiday period. "The Thanksgiving holiday is traditionally a very high traffic volume period and sometimes the weather does not cooperate with travel plans. Troopers will be highly visible, assisting motorists and enforcing safety restraint and alcohol violations," said Colonel Bryan Klipfel.

Thus far in 2006, 42% of the fatal crashes have been alcohol related and 62% of fatal victims were not wearing safety restraints. "It is important for motorists to drive defensively, be aware of changing weather and road conditions, wear safety restraints, and never drive after drinking alcohol," said Klipfel. During last years Thanksgiving holiday period, one person was killed on North Dakota roads.